

IOWA

1. Visiting Teacher – The Visiting Teacher from Spain Program is an exciting new venture between the Iowa Department of Education and the Ministry of Education, Culture, and Sports of Spain. The Visiting Teacher from Spain Program provides local school districts with the opportunity to fill vacant Spanish teaching positions. With this program, Iowa school systems have the option of recruiting highly qualified Spanish educators for a period of up to three years and at the same time provide Iowa students, parents, and communities the opportunity to work with professionals from other countries. Visiting teachers from Spain are certified Spanish language educators with at least one year of experience. Local school districts hire the visiting teachers in accordance with all other local policies in terms of salary scale, certification, and local system requirements. This program strives to (a) Promote cultural and educational relations that will benefit the State of Iowa and Spain; (b) Foster knowledge and appreciation of the culture shared by these two global communities; (c) Foster an educational environment that supports both students and teachers in their continued and future effort toward personal, academic, and professional success; and (d) Utilize technology to promote teaching and learning of world languages. Iowa has been participating in this program since 2001. Last year Iowa had 7 visiting teachers; this year that state has 9 teachers. This program targets mostly rural districts.

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